

BOARD OF FIRE ENGINEERS

The regular meeting of the Board of Fire Engineers was held Tuesday, February 28, 2012; meeting called to order at 7:00 p.m. In attendance: Chief Al Galinelli, Norman Blank, Robert Miner, James Sousa, Brian Remy, Scott Little, and Omer LeTellier. Also, Matthew Primiano.

Minutes from previous meeting read. R. Miner made motion, with second by B. Remy, to accept as submitted. Motion unanimously carried.

Correspondence:

„« Individual company correspondence distributed.

Old Business:

„« 2012/2013 Budget iV Budget hearing held Saturday. Copy of Chief's proposal distributed. Town in deplorable condition, so budgets will be reduced. No pay raises; this is third year of five with none. Chief argued for EMS Coordinator raise inasmuch as she is not considered a clerk, does not receive comp time and pays more for health insurance. Apparatus Repair account cut due to new trucks. Assistant Chief's stipend may be zeroed out. Baker Street Museum cut. Chief tried to get \$20,000 for communications due to narrow banding requirement; it was cut to \$14,200. Company fees are not understood by two council members; they may be eliminated completely. Chief wants company members informed of this.

Computer Services is now part of our budget; originally all under one office, but now split. Equipment Expense request was \$50,000; cut to \$45,000. Council kept fire gear in, even though they had wanted to eliminate it. Fuel cost was kept at \$28,500. Medical Supplies kept at \$25,000, even though Chief requested \$30,000. Chief stated AEDs, etc. for police, highway, and recreation departments will now have to come from their own sources; fire department will no longer provide. General Account had been requested for \$80,000; Council reduced to \$73,150. Chief's Rescue Stipend request was increased; council reduced. Station Upkeep keep level; Training Account was cut by 2%.

Chief's total request was \$507,726; council cut to \$463,525. Last year's third-party billing generated approximately \$375,000; this technically brings Town's portion of fire department budget to less than \$100,000. This represents only 18 cents of each tax dollar. There is another budget hearing scheduled for Saturday, March 3rd basically for town boards; however, Chief will attend. Budget not yet finalized; it could still be cut further.

„« St. Patrick's Day Parade iV Eng. 1, Green Machine & Tower to participate.

New Business:

„« Fire Academy Training iV HazMat Operation iV 40 hr course to be held in Bristol. Chief provided info.

„« Firemen's Memorial Sunday iV Guest speaker will be Bob Horton, past captain of Eng. 6. J. Sousa to get Chief a bio on Bob.

„« Clamboil Fundraiser March 25th at fire headquarters. Chief will

need help. Benefit is for animal shelter.

„« Fuel usage ¶ Chief sent memo to town manager re: cutbacks. Chief reminded everyone to keep lights off when building empty, and lower heat to 60-65. Rescue transports to Newport on mutual aid calls only. Fatima and Pawtucket transports are called in for permission first. Our policy is to transport individuals with no insurance before a private would be called. Chief anticipates 5-10% cutback overall. Manager informed there will be no more unnecessary driving of apparatus. Driver training will be conducted with 3 or more; dispatch should be notified on the air for driver training. Manager also advised future usage of department apparatus, equipment, or stations by outsiders will incur a cost to them. Chief did let manager know he will not jeopardize personnel by not permitting training, even though he has agreed to some cutbacks.

„« Bristol ladder out of service. Warren will be called immediately if Tower needed.

„« Second Signal paging system not being used any longer. Chief working on a system similar to the one Bristol uses; system has a one-time fee of \$4,000.

„« Rescue members responding to maternity call to be honored at March 13th council meeting, 1900 hrs. Will be first thing on council agenda.

„« Paramedic system (as utilized by Bristol) submitted proposal to Warren. Council heard presentation at budget hearing by them; however, Chief does not know where it will go. He will meet with all rescue personnel concerning this.

Station Reports:

„« Sta. 5 ¡V Instructions on generator need to be provided for public in event no company member on hand.

„« Chief wants B. Remy to remind Tower personnel when they are doing training, they are not to go on the roof at headquarters; roof still leaking.

„« Eng. 2 has leak from unknown source. J. Sousa to take it on the road to try to determine problem.

„« HQ door and roof still leaking.

Training:

„« Aerial Class ¡V Names have been submitted. Chief has two others who want to take class; Tower personnel will have precedence.

„« Basic Class ¡V Proceeding well. Pictures for IDs to be taken; once received, N. Blank wants them to be turned in during class to get them used to policy at fire scenes. Class will be switched to Sta. 5, as training room being used by someone else for another class.

„« EMT Refresher Class ¡V Notification already sent to EMT¡s who signed up for class at East Bay Medical Educators. Class begins March 6th. Another class will be held in fall through American Safety Products in Barrington.

„« Extrication Training ¡V East Bay Medical Educators and Brown University ¡V Chief will let them know training needs to be kept short as possible; he cannot have trucks running all day long. N. Blank made motion, with second by R. Miner, to approve change. Motion

passed unanimously.

„« N. Blank questioned who to be responding to CO alarms. Chief had sent memo years ago district engine to be dispatched. He will bring the issue up again at the traffic commission meeting.

„« Motion made by N. Blank, with second by S. Little, to no longer allow training room to be used by outsiders until internal schedules have been established. This will avoid problem of moving classes to accommodate another class. Motion passed unanimously.

„« N. Blank wants to schedule special joint drill in May. Information is not to be given to companies yet. He is to get full info to Chief.

„« Marine Class ıV Being changed to Narragansett Bay Marine Task Force Emergency Response. Anyone responding to marine call must be familiar with these particulars. Class to be March 26th at Sta. 3, 1900 hrs. Chief teaching class; mandated by state. Massive drill to be held May 2nd for all marine units in water at Poppasquash Point, Bristol Yacht Club. Coast Guard will inspect all boats for reliability and equipment.

„« New phone and camera system still being worked on.

There being no further business to discuss, B. Remy made motion, with second by J. Sousa, to adjourn. Motion unanimously passed; meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.